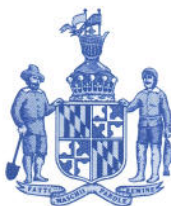


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For Immediate Release

February 16, 2009

FORMER CITY ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT CHARGED CRIMINALLY

State Prosecutor, Robert A. Rohrbaugh, has announced that a criminal indictment was returned by the Prince George's County Grand Jury on February 5, 2009, against the former City Administrator for the City of Seat Pleasant, Bryan Alston. A warrant has been issued for his arrest.

The Grand Jury indicted Mr. Alston, 42, of Baltimore County, on four counts of Felony Theft, three counts of Counterfeiting, three counts of Issuance of False Documents and Misconduct in Office. The indictment alleges that Mr. Alston converted a number of checks belonging to the City of Seat Pleasant. Mr. Alston then issued falsified check payments to several of the City's vendors by forging the signatures of the Mayor of Seat Pleasant, the Treasurer of Seat Pleasant and the various individual vendors. The checks totaling Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Two Dollars and Twenty-Eight Cents (\$3,542.28) were then deposited into Mr. Alston's personal bank account.

If convicted of the Felony Theft charges, Mr. Alston faces a maximum penalty of 60 years incarceration, and/or a fine of up to \$100,000. If convicted of the Counterfeiting charges, Mr. Alston faces a maximum penalty of 30 years incarceration. If convicted of the Issuance of False Document charges, he faces a maximum penalty of 3 years incarceration. Misconduct in Office is a common law offense which carries no specific period of incarceration, except that any imposed punishment cannot be cruel and unusual.

Although Mr. Alston has been charged, he is presumed innocent unless and until he is convicted. A trial date has not been set.

For further inquiries, please contact James Cabezas, Chief Investigator for the Office of the State Prosecutor.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

STATE OF MARYLAND

V.

BRYAN ALSTON

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CASE NO.

INDICTMENT

**The Grand Jurors of the State of Maryland for Prince George's County do on their
oath present:**

FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

1. The City of Seat Pleasant (hereinafter "City") is an incorporated municipality located in Prince George's County, Maryland.
2. On February 14, 2005 the Mayor of Seat Pleasant swore **BRYAN ALSTON** in as City Administrator.
3. At all pertinent times, **BRYAN ALSTON**, was the City Administrator for the City.
4. As the City Administrator, **BRYAN ALSTON** was responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of City.
5. At all times pertinent, **BRYAN ALSTON** was charged with negotiating and administering the City's contracts, keeping the City Council informed of the City's financial condition and expending funds as authorized by the Council's budget and as approved by both the Mayor and Treasurer.
6. At all times pertinent, OOM Media, a sole proprietorship, is and was, a printing company, which at times, provided the City with its official stationery, forms, and printed its newsletter.
7. At all times pertinent, Charles Brown, owned and controlled OOM Media.

8. At all times pertinent, Darwyn M. Dave was an independent contractor who performed computer and information technology work for the City.

COUNT ONE—THEFT OVER \$500.00
(OOM Media, Check Number 38692 dated June 26, 2006)

9. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-7 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
10. On or about June 26, 2006 **BRYAN ALSTON** did, in Prince George's County, willfully and knowingly obtain and exert unauthorized control over property of the City of Seat Pleasant, specifically Seat Pleasant City check number 38692 dated June 26, 2006, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: seven hundred seventeen dollars and twenty-eight cents (\$717.28) United States Currency (money), in a manner that deprived the City of Seat Pleasant of that property, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Theft Over \$500.00, *Criminal Law Article*, sec. 7-104)

CJIS CODE 3-0521

COUNT TWO—FORGERY
(OOM Media, Check Number 38692 dated June 26, 2006)

11. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-7 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
12. On or about June 26, 2006, **BRYAN ALSTON** did, with the intent to defraud knowingly and willfully did falsely make and forge the signatures of the Mayor of the City of Seat Pleasant, the Treasurer of the City of Seat Pleasant and Charles Brown on Seat Pleasant City check number 38692, purporting the said signatures to be authentic, against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Forgery, *Common Law*)

COUNT THREE—UTTERING
(OOM Media, Check Number 38692 dated June 26, 2006)

13. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-7 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.

14. On or about June 26, 2007, **BRYAN ALSTON** did, with the intent to defraud, knowingly and willfully did utter and publish as true and genuine a falsely made and forged document, to wit: Seat Pleasant City check number 38692 drawn on the City of Seat Pleasant's "General Account", purported to contain the signatures of the Mayor of the City of Seat Pleasant, the Treasurer of the City of Seat Pleasant, and Charles Brown, against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Uttering, *Common Law*)

COUNT FOUR- THEFT OVER \$500.00
(OOM Media, Check Number 38808 dated July 21, 2006)

15. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-7 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
16. On or about July 21, 2006 **BRYAN ALSTON**, did, in Prince George's County, willfully and knowingly obtain and exert unauthorized control over property of the entity known as the City of Seat Pleasant, specifically Seat Pleasant City check number 38808 dated July 21, 2006, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: six hundred dollars (\$600.00) United States Currency (money), in a manner that deprived the City of Seat Pleasant of that money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Theft Over \$500.00, *Criminal Law Article*, sec. 7-104)

CJIS CODE 3-0521

COUNT FIVE—FORGERY
(OOM Media, Check Number 38808 dated July 21, 2006)

17. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-7 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
18. On or about July 21, 2006, **BRYAN ALSTON** did, with the intent to defraud knowingly and willfully did falsely make and forge the signature of Charles Brown on Seat Pleasant City check number 38808, purporting the said signature to be authentic, against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Forgery, *Common Law*)

COUNT SIX—UTTERING
(OOM Media, Check Number 38808 dated July 21, 2006)

19. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-7 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
20. On or about July 21, 2007, **BRYAN ALSTON** did, with the intent to defraud, knowingly and willfully did utter and publish as true and genuine a falsely made and forged document, to wit: check number 38808 drawn on the City of Seat Pleasant's "General Account", purported to contain the endorsement of Charles Brown, against the peace, government and dignity of the State.
- (Uttering, *Common Law*)

COUNT SEVEN—THEFT OVER \$500.00
(OOM Media, Check Number 39027 dated September 14, 2006)

21. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-7 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
22. On or about September 15, 2006, **BRYAN ALSTON** did, in Prince George's County, willfully and knowingly obtain and exert unauthorized control over property of the entity known as the City of Seat Pleasant, specifically Seat Pleasant City check number 39027, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: one thousand two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$1,225.00) United States Currency (money), in a manner that deprived the City of Seat Pleasant of that money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.
- (Theft Over \$500.00, *Criminal Law Article*, sec. 7-104)
- CJIS CODE 3-0521

COUNT EIGHT --THEFT OVER \$500.00
(Darwyn M. Dave, Check Number 39104 dated September 29, 2006)

23. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-5 and paragraph 8 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
24. On or about October 4, 2006, **BRYAN ALSTON**, did, in Prince George's County, willfully and knowingly obtain and exert unauthorized control over

property of the entity known as the City of Seat Pleasant, specifically Seat Pleasant City check number 39104, the value of which exceeded \$500.00, to wit: one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) United States Currency (money), in a manner that deprived the City of Seat Pleasant of that money, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Theft Over \$500.00, *Criminal Law Article*, sec. 7-104)

CJIS CODE 3-0521

COUNT NINE—FORGERY

(Darwyn M. Dave, Check Number 39104 dated September 29, 2006)

25. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-5 and paragraph 8 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
26. On or about September 29, 2006, **BRYAN ALSTON** did, with the intent to defraud knowingly and willfully did falsely make and forge the signature of Darwyn M. Dave on Seat Pleasant City check number 39104, purporting the said signature to be authentic, against the peace, government and dignity of the State.
- (Forgery, *Common Law*)

COUNT TEN—UTTERING

(Darwyn M. Dave, Check Number 39104 dated September 29, 2006)

27. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-5 and paragraph 8 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
28. On or about October 4, 2006, **BRYAN ALSTON** did, with the intent to defraud, knowingly and willfully did utter and publish as true and genuine a falsely made and forged document, to wit: check number 39104 drawn on the City of Seat Pleasant's "General Account", purported to contain the signature of Darwyn M. Dave, against the peace, government and dignity of the State.
- (Uttering, *Common Law*)

COUNT ELEVEN – MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE

29. The allegations and facts contained in paragraphs 1-8 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.

30. On or about February 14, 2005 and continuing through on or about September 21, 2007, **BRYAN ALSTON** being then and there the duly appointed by the acting Mayor of the City of Seat Pleasant, Prince George's County, Maryland, a incorporated municipality, perverting the trust reposed in him, in the performance of his official duties, did improperly convert check payments paid on behalf of the City of Seat Pleasant to the aforementioned vendors for services rendered contrary to the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided, against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

(Misconduct in Office, *Common Law*)

Robert A. Rohrbaugh
Maryland State Prosecutor